

**OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL
DECLARATION UNDER SECTION 57 OF THE
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACTS 2000, as amended**

Dec 57 23/06

Works which would materially affect the character of the protected structure and, as a result, require planning permission

Note this is a Partial S57 Declaration relating to proposed repair works outlined in accompanying Method Statement prepared by David Kelly Partnership.

1. Any other works related to the protected structure and its curtilage which are not part of this Declaration.

Works which would not materially affect the character of the protected structure and as a result would not require planning permission

Note this is a Partial S57 Declaration relating to proposed repair works outlined in accompanying Method Statement prepared by David Kelly Partnership.

1. The works shall retain the maximum amount of surviving historic fabric, including structural elements, ironwork, joinery and early form of concrete and shall be designed to cause minimum interference to the structure and/or fabric. Items that have to be removed for repair shall be recorded prior to removal, catalogued and numbered to allow for authentic reinstatement. All existing original features not part of the works shall be protected during the course of refurbishment. Refer to Department Advice Series: Iron and all works shall be carried out in accordance with Department Conservation Guidelines:
<https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/resources/>
2. A suitably qualified conservation expert shall be employed to manage monitor and implement the works on the site and within the workshop and to ensure adequate protection of the historic fabric during the works. The name of the specialist consultant competent in the field of architectural conservation is to be submitted to the planning authority two weeks prior to the commencement of works.
3. A copy of the survey drawings of the bridge and Conservation/Methodology Reports shall be submitted to the Irish Architectural Archive prior to the commencement of development.
4. With regard to replacement timber sections (deck) where possible timber should be sourced locally from the estate, or shall be independently certified by the Forest Stewardship Council or an equivalent scheme.

Offaly County Council

Áras an Chontae
Charleville Road
Tullamore

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Declaration

Declaration Type: **Partial Declaration**

Plan Type: CDP 2021_2027

In accordance with Section 57 (2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000

Number: **DEC/23/006**

Planning Authority

NIAH 14819263



This Declaration specifies what works would, or would not, in the opinion of the planning authority materially affect the character of the protected structure, or any element thereof, and, as a result, require planning permission. Under the Act, protection extends to the entire structure including its interior and the land lying within its curtilage. It also extends to any other structures lying within the curtilage of the protected structure, to their interiors and to all fixtures and features that form part of the interiors or exteriors of any of these structures. Where specified in the Record of Protected Structures, protection may also extend to any other feature within attendant grounds of the protected structure.

Nothing in this declaration exempts works that would nor otherwise be exempt from a requirement for planning permission. Changes of use or intensification of the current use may require planning permission. In doubt, the owner/occupier should consult the planning authority for further advice before commencing any works.

Applicant Name	The Birr Scientific and Heri	Status	Owner
Name of Building	Birr Castle Suspension	Former Name	Chain Bridge and Suspensio
Townland	TOWNPARKS (BALLYBRI	OS Map Type	
Address 2	Birr Castle	Map Sheet	
Address 3	Castle Street	National Grid co-ordi	
Date of Request	22-Mar-23 14-Jun-23	Date of Inspection	
Previous Declaration	N/A	Date of Declaration	Wednesday 5 April 2023
Protection Status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Record of Monuments and Places	
Record of Protected Structures	53-353	Archaeological Potential	035-012004, 5, 9, 10, 17, 20
Architectural Conservation Area	N/A	Preservation Order or Temp PO	

NIAH Description of Structure

Single-span wire suspension footbridge, built between 1821-25, within the grounds of Birr Castle over the River Camcor. Hung from reinforced-concrete uprights. Anchored to the ground behind with a pair of diagonal wrought-iron rods. Timber deck. Bridge accessed through pointed-arched openings with wrought-iron gate to opening on northern bank.

Fred Hammond Bridge Inventory OFIAR-035-030: Single-span wire suspension footbridge over Camcor River in grounds of Birr Castle. The bridge is hung from reinforced concrete uprights, tied across their tops (probably the original cast-iron portals encased in concrete). They are set 13.45m apart over stone/concrete abutments. Each is anchored to the ground behind with a pair of diagonal wrought-iron rods. The actual span comprises two multiple wrought-iron wire cables to which are attached single-strand wire hangers. The bottom ends of these hangers carry timber transoms over which timber boards are laid longitudinally to form the 90cm wide deck. The hangers are tied to each other with horizontal and diagonal wires. There is a wrought-iron gate at the north (right bank) end.

Composition:

Single-span wire suspension footbridge, built between 1821-25, within the grounds of Birr Castle over the River Camcor. Hung from reinforced-concrete uprights. Anchored to the ground behind with a pair of diagonal wrought-iron rods. Timber deck. Bridge accessed through pointed-arched openings with wrought-iron gate to opening on northern bank.

Roof:

N/A

Walls:

N/A

Openings:

Bridge accessed through pointed-arched openings with wrought-iron gate to opening on northern bank.

Interior:

N/A

Furniture and Fittings:

N/A

Site:

The wire suspension footbridge crosses over Camcor River in grounds of Birr Castle.

Mapping References:

OSI 6" c.1838 shows the 'Chain Bridge' crossing the Camcor River with landscaped walks to the north and south of the river close to St Brendan's Well.

Town Map c.1890 well established walks with bridge named 'Wire Bridge' leading to southern walk to St Brendan's Well.

OSI 25" c.1910 similar arrangement with the inclusion of electric power house to the south and associated waterworks, bridge called 'Suspension Foot Bridge leading to southern walk to St Brendan's Well'.

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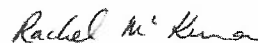
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Special Remarks**Any further documentation attached****Inspector**

Rachel Mc Kenna

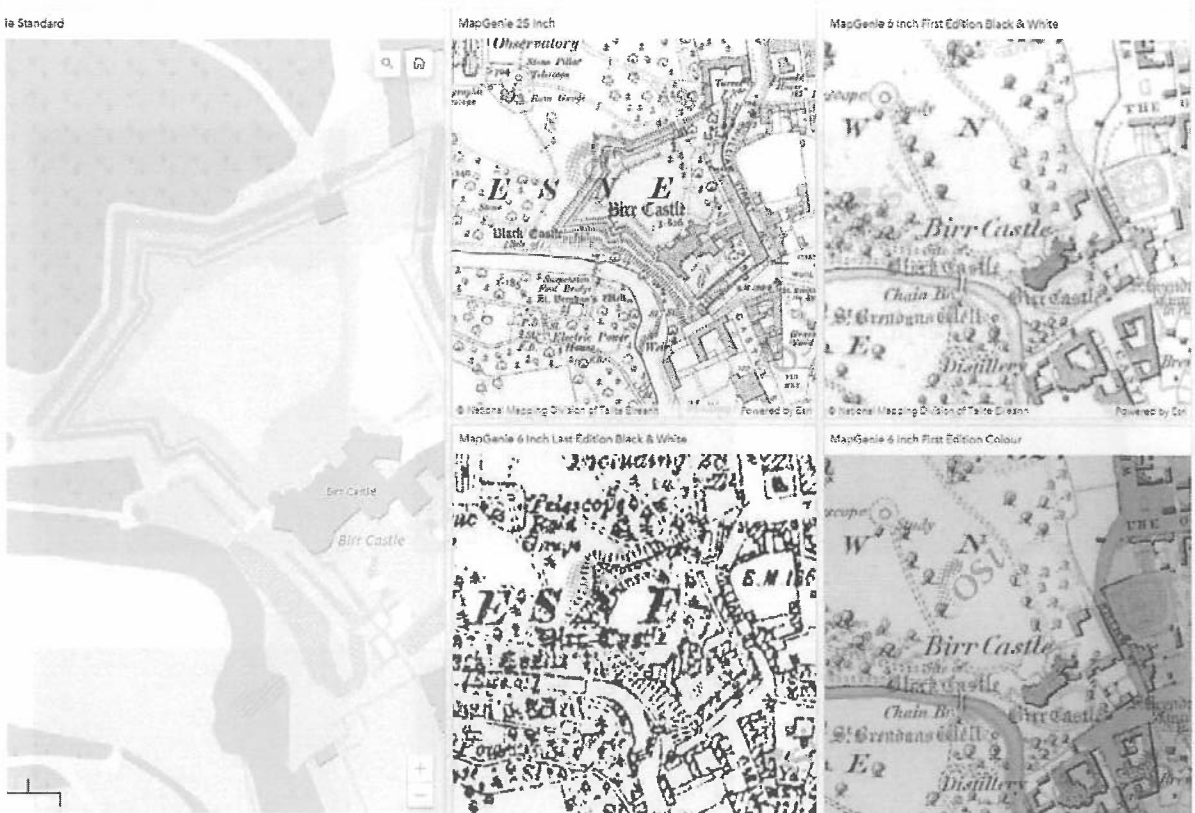
Inspector Date

Wednesday 5 April 2023



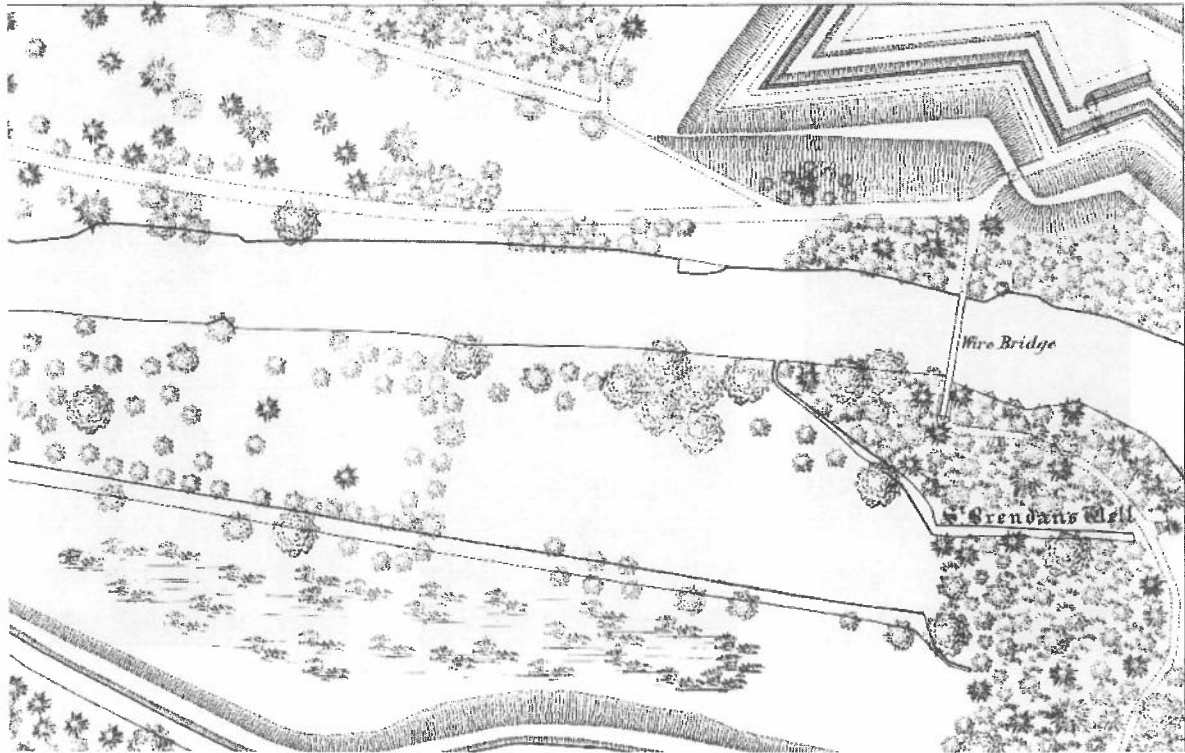
S57 Declaration Birr Suspension Bridge DEC23006 - OSI Mapping

ie Standard



UCD Town Map c.1890

KING'S C^o. Sheet XXXV. 10.11.



S57 DEC23006 Birr Suspension Bridge

